



January 2021

Dear Member

Welcome to the January addition of your Newsletter. I hope that you will find it interesting, entertaining and educational. If I have not previously done so, I would like to wish you a Happy New Year! Whilst 2021 feels to have continued very much from where 2020 left off there is hope of a much brighter future. I refer of course to Covid-19 and the vaccine. I have heard already that many Market Bosworth residents have received their first dose and that, as I write this, the next tranche are being contacted. I have volunteered with Dialaride and am waiting for them to conclude their checks (which includes DBS check and references). In the meantime, if any member needs help in getting to their vaccination give me a call. I think I mentioned last year that I don't do New Year Resolutions, I don't cope well under pressure, and always think that stopping something or promising to do something has a negative psychological effect. For example, I didn't stop smoking, I am choosing not to smoke which is a different connotation altogether. The former suggests doing without whilst the latter puts me in charge of my decisions. Whatever resolutions you have made good luck with them and I hope they work out for you. One thing is for certain, we will need to support local business as much as possible when the lockdown ends. Some pubs, cafés, shops and restaurants will have had no customer income since March 2020 and that is going to be difficult to overcome, certainly in the short term.

I am always very pleased when I receive a response to the Newsletter as it means that it has worked. Here is a letter from Harry which starts us off this month. If anyone has any items they wish to have included, or have a quiz to add or would like to suggest an item, do please contact me. I am always open to suggestion and will do my best to include the items you would like to read. Harry responded to the last Newsletter by email and I have his permission to share the email with you here.

Hello Nigel.

Having started my working career in Denbighshire and I have fond memories of Pentrefoelas (Pentrefol is village and las would be blue) and Ysptyt Ifan (Ivan's Hospital). In those far off days out in the sticks, as like Bosworth, farmers used to sell milk direct to householders from their horse and cart or van. It was my job to turn up out of the blue to sample the milk for quality as it was being delivered. My office was in Colwyn Bay, on the coast, whereas Pentrefoelas was well inland and out of the way although on the A5 London to Holyhead road. Anyway, we would choose to be in and around Pentrefoelas in the early hours of a Sunday morning to sample the milk as it was being delivered and then go climbing in Snowdonia when the job was done. I did have my one day in court with a case of watered down milk.

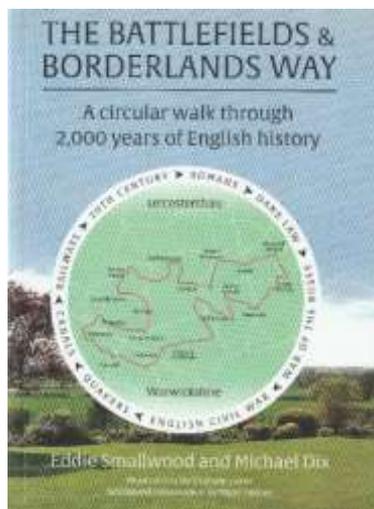
In the Scotland Quiz are there not now three bridges across the Firth of Forth, one rail and two road?

Well done and Best Wishes for Christmas

Thank you Harry for sharing your memories with us.

New Book!

Eddie Smallwood has now dropped off my copy of his new book written in co-authorship with Michael Dix. The Battlefields & Borderlands Way. I wasted no time in settling down to read it and have to say that I thoroughly enjoyed it. I have lived in and certainly been associated with Market Bosworth for most of my life



and I thought I knew the area well until I read this book. The book takes the reader on a journey through the beautiful countryside which surrounds the Battlefield site. There is a map of the whole area on the inside rear cover and each sectional walk also has an easy to follow map.

There are plenty of interest as Eddie and Michael point out the numerous points of interest and historical facts along the way, which add to the enjoyment.

If you would like a copy then please either send me an email or give me a call. Eddie has left me a small supply for MBS members wishing to acquire a copy. For members within a 5 mile radius of Market Bosworth I will deliver them to you free of charge, so you will not incur the p&p fee. It would be really helpful if you could have cash amount available on delivery, if not there are other ways. The book is also on sale at Bosworth News. If you live father afield and cannot visit Bosworth News, or get a copy from me then, worry not you can

still get a copy. In this case, simply email battlefieldsandborders@gmail.com The cost is £6.50 plus £2.00 for post and packaging.

The book is very well written and support for a local book will be most appreciated by Eddie and Michael.

On-line Bookshop

For those of you looking for used and hard to find books I can fully recommend Aucott & Thomas Booksellers, in fact I cannot praise them highly enough. They recently managed to find a book for me not available anywhere else. Roger and Jacque are both members of the Society, as many of you will know so please give to them your first consideration when looking for books. The website is www.aucott.com.

History Quiz (Answers at the end of the Newsletter)

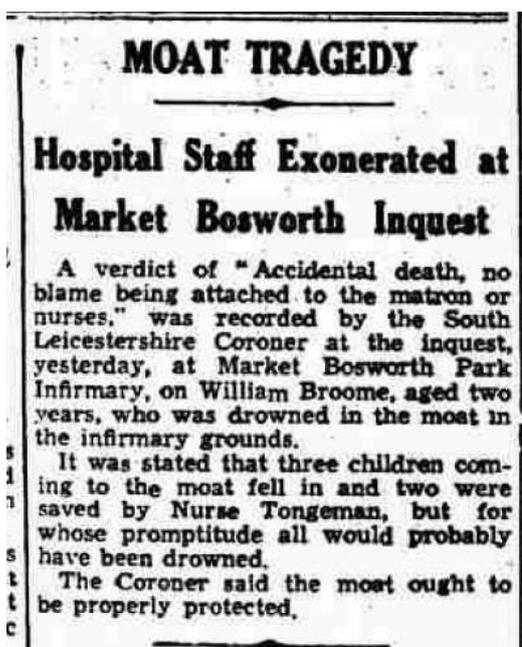
1. Which queen had the shortest reign of Henry VIII's six wives?
2. In 16th-century Japan, who was Yasuke?
3. Who wrote the 12th-century account *Historia Regum Britanniae* (The History of the Kings of Britain), which is often credited with making the legend of King Arthur popular?
4. It is thought that Harriet Tubman directly rescued around 300 people from slavery and gave instructions to help dozens more. But in which conflict did she become the first woman to lead an armed assault?
5. In which country is the Bay of Pigs?
6. Which medieval queen was married to both Louis VII of France and Henry II of England?
7. Who was the first human to journey into space?
8. Whose body was exhumed from Westminster Abbey, more than two years after his death, to be 'executed' for treason?
9. Who ultimately succeeded King Alfred the Great as 'king of the Anglo-Saxons'?
10. By what nickname is Edward Teach better known?
11. Julius Caesar was assassinated on 15 March 44 BC, a date now often known by what term?
12. Where did the Great Fire of London begin, on 2 September 1666?
13. What German dance, which sees partners spinning together in close contact, was condemned as depraved when it was first seen in Regency society?
14. Which king preceded Queen Victoria?
15. Guy Bailey, Roy Hackett and Paul Stephenson made history in 1963, as part of a protest against a bus company that refused to employ black and Asian drivers in which UK city?
16. Who famously duelled Alexander Hamilton on 11 July 1804, resulting in the founding father's death?
17. What, in the 16th and 17th centuries, was a 'drunkard's cloak'?
18. What is considered the world's oldest writing system?
19. Who was the mother of Emperor Nero and the wife of Emperor Claudius?
20. Which pioneer of hair products became America's first black female millionaire?

The Grey Lady



The Society also received an interesting email; it was from Penny Griffiths Morgan who is an author and researcher. She wrote *“Good afternoon, I am in the process of researching into Bosworth Hall in Market Bosworth, formerly the residency of the Dixie’s, and am on the search for a few bits of information which I was hoping that you may be able to point me in the right direction? In 1758, Dixie’s daughter Anna died, and the rumour is that it was from catastrophic injuries incurred by stepping onto one of her father’s man traps (supposedly placed to catch her boyfriend), whilst I have confirmed she was indeed buried that year, I cannot find anything that gives a clue as to how she died, do you know of anywhere I could try? Also, I was wondering where I may obtain the former “blueprints” of the hall? I am assuming sketches would have been done before it was built or adapted?”*

I expect everyone is familiar with the story of Anna (sometimes Anne or Ann) and her grisly death caused by being trapped all night in a man trap. Penny was familiar with the story but wanted to know if the Society had any factual evidence, documents or paper cuttings in the Archive. After referring to Glynis our Archivist, Robert our ghost expert (who confirmed an entry of death in the Parish Register) and to Peter our Dixie expert, and other Committee members, we could help only with an outline design of the Hall but no evidence to support the legend. Peter Foss mentions the event in his book *The History of Market Bosworth*, but warns that it may be apocryphal. So, I am wondering if you may be able to help? Have you any ideas where we may find information? Have you read it in a book, which may have cited a source? Or do you have documents which prove the story to be true? We would be very interested to hear from you. Pictured above left is Anna or her sister Rebecca. This is the only known painting except one of a family group which also contains Anna, her siblings and parents.



Penny did share a sad but interesting story with me. It relates to the death of a toddler in the moat around the Hall. We do not have anything in the Archive index and unusually we have been unable to unearth anything about it. Please get in touch if you know anything about the story. Anything that adds to our knowledge about it will be most welcome. We do not know the date of the article but, elsewhere on the page it refers to the telephone number of the Nottingham Journal, from where the cutting was taken, changing from 3211 to 45911 the following Monday so that date should be easily found.

We also know that nurse Tongeman was involved and so we will be looking through the records to see if we can find when she was at Bosworth Park Hospital

Peter Loseby has been researching the Dixie Diaries and following his article on Lady Florence, last month I was delighted to receive Peter’s latest article. I think he has done very well, and he promises to have more articles in the future. The articles will also be housed in the Archive, future researchers, scholars or the idly curious will be able to read about life around the turn of the 20th Century as experienced by the Dixie family. It is included here by kind permission from Caroline Dixie.

ALBERT EDWARD DIXIE

Albert was born on the 29th of September 1878. He was born in his parents London residence on Chesterfield Street. His elder brother, Douglas had also been born there two years earlier.

I assume that like his brother he was christened at St Georges Church Hanover Square. One of his godparents was HRH Edward Prince of Wales (photographed left).



He and his brother Douglas were looked after by their Nanny Miss Ryan for the first seven years of his life. This was necessary because his parents left for Patagonia when he was six months old and in 1881 his parents left him again, this time bound for South Africa where his Mother was to be a war correspondent.

Up until 1883 he spent his time either at Bosworth Hall or at the 'Fishery' in Windsor Park.

His daily life compared with that of a seven-year-old today could only be described as spartan. His brother, Douglas records in his diary: -

"We get up at 7 and Mother sees us have our cold bath and dress. Then we do lessons with Mother until 9 o'clock after which we go and look for eggs in the hen

house. There are always plenty of duck eggs. Next, we have breakfast and then lessons till 11 o'clock when Miss Ryan takes us out walking till luncheon time. After lunch we do German with Mother and then play about till 4:30 when we come in and do lessons till six. At six o'clock we have tea then I write my journal and from seven to half past Mother reads to us in the drawing room"

In 1886 both Albert and his brother are sent as boarders to Beaumont College although the school is close enough for their Mother to collect them and take them home to the Fishery most weekends.

It was at this point in their lives that they bade farewell to their Nanny, Miss Ryan, which must have been a little traumatic for them, especially Albert aged 7.

At the start of the Autumn Term in 1887 the brothers are separated when Douglas is sent to continue his education on the training ship 'Worcester' which was moored on the Thames at Greenhithe and was part of the Thames Nautical Training College. Meanwhile, Albert travelled with his parents to stay for the shooting season on an estate near Thurso. It appears that Lady Florence resumed her role as home teacher to Albert.

On July 9th, 1889., The 'Fishery' was sold, and the family moved back to Scotland staying in various rented accommodation before moving to Par on the 13th of June 1893.



In September 1893 Albert followed in his brother's footsteps by joining the Royal Navy as a cadet and being sent to the training ship HMS Britannia (shown left).

HMS Britannia along with HMS Hindostan were moored on the River Dart. They provided training for the sons of affluent families over a period of two years. If the cadets achieved a high mark at the end of their training, they were promoted to midshipman otherwise they joined the fleet as cadets and continued their training.

Albert achieved sufficiently high enough marks not only to pass out as a Midshipman but was awarded nine months seniority which meant that he would be promoted to Sub Lieutenant nine months earlier than those men who had not achieved such a mark.

On the 14th of September 1895, just prior to his 17th birthday he joined the second-class battleship HMS Nile, part of the Mediterranean Fleet, on which he served until June 1896 when he became ill with 'remittent fever'. This is a condition where the patient suffers from a type of respiratory infection resulting in a continuous high temperature. He was sent home to convalesce with his family who were now living at Glen Stewart the home of the Dowager Marchioness of Queensbury.

He was declared fit for service again and was appointed to HMS Repulse in the Channel Squadron on the 2nd of September 1896. He served on the Repulse until 1898 when he joined HMS Champion which was a training ship. It is not clear what his duties were, but he was promoted to Sub-Lieutenant on the 28th of May 1899.

On the 21st of June 1900 he was appointed to HMS Leda a torpedo gunboat in the Coast Guard Squadron. This was Albert's first experience of a small craft and it appears, according to an entry in his brother's diary, that he did not enjoy the experience. Before leaving HMS Leda, he was promoted to Lieutenant on the 28th of November 1900.

On the 6th of December 1901 he was appointed as the Navigating Officer to the newly launched HMS Fantome, but it appears that he was only onboard for her trials before he joined the Far East Fleet as the Navigating Officer, of HMS Fearless on the 20th of March 1902'.

In 1904, he was responsible for re-surveying Port Swettenham. The port had originally been surveyed in 1893 but the Approaches comprising of the Straits of North and South Klang had not.

Following his survey ships of a much larger tonnage were able to safely navigate the channel.

Albert was thanked by the Colonial Office of the Federated Malaya States for his survey.

He was also nominated and won the coveted Shadwell Testimonial which is awarded annually to the Navigating Officer whose work is considered exemplary. He was presented with a pocket sextant.

He returned to England in March 1905 onboard his old ship HMS Nile.

On returning to England, he joined the training officer staff of HMS Mercury which at the time was the shore-based navigation school.

On the 6th of November 1905 he received a wire from his brother Douglas informing him that his Mother, Lady Florence, had died. He immediately travelled to Glen Stewart to attend his mother's funeral on the 11th of November.

On the 12th of March 1907 he was appointed as Navigating Officer to HMS Achilles an armoured cruiser. Whilst onboard he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-Commander.

In the early part of 1909 Albert was appointed to HMS Bedford as Navigating and First Officer. Unfortunately, the Bedford, whilst carrying out speed trials off the coast of Korea, ran onto rocks. As Navigating Officer Albert along with the Captain were court martialled.

The report of the hearing was as follows: -

On 20th August 1910, four armed cruisers of the China Station, under the command of Vice Admiral Alfred Winsloe aboard HMS Minotaur departed Wei-Hai-Wei, bound for Nagasaki Japan. Winsloe ordered his ships to carry out full power trials. After the ships rounded Shandong Peninsula and entered the Yellow Sea heading southeast, Bedford was leading the cruisers by at least five nautical miles and each ship was navigating independently. The weather was misty and rainy with Force 3-5 head winds there was a full moon with a spring tide. One of the other cruisers, HMS Kent, checked her navigation when she spotted Ross Island at 05:00 the following morning and found that she was eleven nautical miles north and one nautical mile east of her estimated position. Heavy cloud cover had prevented all four ships from using celestial navigation to fix their position with any certainty, Kent was the only one that spotted a landmark clearly enough to determine her position.

Bedford got a partial star observation at 04:15 but the bridge crew was distracted by spotting land off the port side just seven minutes later and did not make calculations until later.

The navigator was called to the bridge and he assumed it was Loney Bluff on the southwest side of Quelpart Island in the East China Sea. There was nothing else visible eastwards and the position was within three nautical miles of the ship's estimated position. The stellar observation was finally worked out at 04:35 and it gave a position some thirty nautical miles north of the dead reckoning position although it could not be confirmed.

At 04:40 land was sighted ahead of the ship and the navigator ordered a turn to starboard to reverse course at 04.46. About ten seconds after starting the turn a rock was spotted off the starboard bow and he attempted to reverse his turn, but Bedford ran aground on Samarang Reef some 24.7 nautical miles north and 8 nautical miles west of her estimated position.

The impact sprung seams between plates on the starboard side of the bow, ripped a hole some thirty feet by twenty feet that flooded the forward boiler room, killing eighteen of the nineteen crewmen on duty there and tore another six feet by four feet hole in the side of the boiler room.

Lieutenant- Commander Albert Dixie had accounted for the head sea and wind in his dead reckoning, he failed to account for the currents or tides, expecting them to cancel out.

Captain Edward Fitzherbert and Albert were both found guilty of 'suffering the ship to be stranded'. Albert was found not guilty of negligence. Both were sentenced to be 'dismissed their ship' and severely reprimanded.



HMS Bedford (shown left) was eventually salvaged and after her armament had been removed was sold for scrap. The Navy received less than £5,000 for the hulk.

On December 3rd Albert was appointed as Navigating Officer on HMS Magnificent a battleship which was part of the Home Fleet. The appointment would suggest that despite the loss of HMS Bedford the Navy still had confidence in his abilities. His Commanding Officer's rating of Albert's conduct was recorded on his service record as being 'very good' which would seem to confirm their confidence.

However, Albert must have felt very depressed following the death of 18 of the crew and loss of Bedford. On the 15th of December 1910 he requested to be placed on the retired list. Over Christmas he obviously reconsidered his position and requested that his earlier request be cancelled. This was granted but he was sent on six months leave at half pay presumably for him to regain his confidence.

On August 1st, 1911 Albert was appointed as Navigating Officer on HMS Majestic part of the 7th Battle Squadron in the Third Fleet. On the 14th of July 1912 she collided with her sister ship Victorious during manoeuvres. Only slight damage was caused. Although Albert could well have been on the bridge during manoeuvres, he would not have been responsible for the ship's conn.

October the 1st 1912 Albert was appointed to HMS Wildfire the name given to the Sheerness Dockyard. His appointment was in the Navigation School, but it is not clear what his duties were.

On June 3rd, 1914 Albert married Margaret Hunter Watson at the Church of the Sacred Heart, Edinburgh.



At the outbreak of war on August 4th Albert was given his first command. He became commanding officer of the Torpedo Boat 6. There is no record of his deployment or what action, if any, he was involved in.

On May 6th, 1915 he transferred to HMS Victory, the Portsmouth Dockyard, where he became an instructor at the Navigation School, and in the course of his duties he became adept as an ariel observer. He authored the book Air Navigation for Flight Officers which is still available to purchase (shown left).



Albert's only child was born on July 15th, 1916 he was named Edward Archibald Wolstan Beaumont Dixie. He joined the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry attaining the rank of Captain. Unfortunately, Edward was killed in action on the 26th of May 1940 at Dunkirk aged 23.

It is worth considering that if Edward had outlived his cousin Sir Wolstan, who died in 1975, he would have inherited the title to become the 14th Bart and furthermore if he had fathered a son that child would have become the present-day 15th Bart.!

On June 6th, 1918 Albert transferred to HMS Crescent, the navigation school in the Rosyth Dockyard. where he remained until he requested to go on the retirement list in 1920.

Tragically he died on the 16th of May 1920. The only cause of death was given as gastroenteritis, but most records give cause of death as 'unknown'. His wife received a gratuity of £500 but no indication on his service records that she was entitled to any other support from the Navy.

Hexachordia

Dear Nigel

I hope you had an enjoyable festive season despite the challenging circumstances. I also hope that your members enjoyed our Christmas concert video.



I am writing to let you know that we have produced a new video. It is a “Docu-Concert” called Kemp’s Jig and follows the exploits of a Shakespearean comic actor called Will Kemp who decided he would dance from London to Norwich. On his way through the eastern counties Kemp met with all sorts of people and had many adventures. We use Kemp’s own words to retrace this unusual musical journey, along the way exploring many aspects of life in Elizabethan England. The video lasts about fifty-five minutes and provides an accessible, educative and entertaining insight into this golden time in English history.

You can view our teaser clip of Kemp’s Jig on our website at <http://www.hexachordia.com/virtualhex.html>.

As with our Christmas video, this is a pre-recorded video which is hosted on Vimeo. When a group pays the one-off fee, we provide a link and password to the video which you can then disseminate to your paid-up members for them to watch at their leisure, in the comfort of their own homes, as many times as they wish.

We are offering our Kemp’s Jig “Docu-Concert” for a one-off fee of £90 for groups with 100+ members and £40 for smaller groups. You can pay by PayPal via our website page or, if you prefer, by BACS or cheque.

I do hope this latest video offering from Hexachordia is of interest and that you and your committee might consider subscribing.

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to get in touch.

Best wishes
Sarah

We would qualify for the £40.00 version at the moment so, could you please email me and let me know if this would be of interest to you. I do not want to ask your committee to take out a subscription if it is not going to be used by a majority of members. Closing date 28th February 2021

BOSWORTH EAGLE OR FALCON BADGE

This splendid bird is part of a silver-gilt livery badge, which would have been worn by a high ranking member of a household of one of the main players in the Battle of Bosworth. Along with the Bosworth Boar and the lead shot scatter, it was one of the key objects found during the Bosworth Survey that helped us locate the Battlefield. Members of the survey team have been working since it was found with experts trying to identify it. It was originally identified as an eagle with a snake in its mouth, a symbol of good over evil used since Roman times.



Kevin Schürer (Leicester University) believes that it is a fettered falcon and is part of the livery of Arthur Plantagenet. He was the illegitimate son of King Edward IV, and the falcon’s head facing right (the wrong way) is a symbol of illegitimacy. Edward IV was king before his brother Richard and was the father of the ‘princes in the tower’. There is no record of Arthur being present at Bosworth, but he could have been of fighting age, being born between 1461 and 75 - or perhaps one of his close household fought in his place?

We know he survived and served in the court of his half-sister Elizabeth of York, and became an Esquire of the King’s Bodyguard to his nephew Henry VIII, to whom he was a close companion. He died of a heart attack in 1540, two days after being released from the Tower, after being held (incorrectly) on suspicion of treason over Calais, where he was born and had been Constable. Found by the Bosworth Survey team 2006, the badge

can be seen at Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre. PAS Ref No. LEIC-4405A7, Leicestershire Museums Accession Number X.A244.2007.



Taken from the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society Newsletter 106, spring 2020. Wendy Scott, former Finds Liaison Officer for the Leicestershire Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS), contributes another article in her series about objects on display in local museums that were acquired under the Treasure Act 1996. Thanks to Chris Peat for sharing this. The article is reprinted from the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society. It is featured in their Spring 2020 Newsletter numbered 106. Membership is £30.00 for a single membership and £40.00 for a family membership (which just shows what good value our

membership fees are) and joining could not be easier, simply go to [LAHS - Welcome to Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society](#) and select the joining tab.

Johan Verspay



You will, I am certain, remember Johan who spent a couple of weeks with us during the Bosworth Links digs. I stay connected with Johan and I thought you might be interested to hear how he is faring and his news. There is some exciting news at the end.

My studies are all but completed. I would have defended my dissertation in Plzen last year were it not for the Covid-restrictions (and some interesting Czech bureaucratic obstacles).

Our community archaeology activities have been severely hampered, although we were able to do some alternative fieldwalking and metal detecting in the autumn. This was highly appreciated by the participants and great fun. Additionally, our CARE initiative gains some notoriety and people start contacting us with their own finds. One of the farmers even brought in a complete Browning machine gun he ploughed up in his field. Probably a relict salvaged from a

B17 bomber that crashed nearby and buried again later. While we plan to pick up our test pitting this year, current developments cast doubt to what extent we will be able to proceed with our programme for the first half of 2021. We are currently trying to organize a back-up plan with metal detection surveys and activities for secondary school classes.

To preserve some sanity, I started cultivating hop now and the local beer club participates by brewing various beers from it. Recently I was able to purchase a small plot of land behind us which would make a suitable hop garden when we decide to scale up. This year, we'll start with an extension of vegetable garden and we'll see how we proceed from there. It's nice to have something to build and develop. And in the worst case we'll have a garden with lovely flowers. Speaking of growing, we are also expecting another baby, so this will be an exciting year for us in any case.

The picture was taken when Johan and I went magnet fishing in the moat of Bosworth Hall. Johan was and is, a keen magnet fisherman and we had some fun along the Ashby canal, where amongst other things we found a bicycle, a washing machine, an iron bar and a lot of small bits of metal. Not especially rewarding but a great way to spend an afternoon or evening.

I am sure you will join with me in sending best wishes for the new addition to their family.

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

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First and Second World War records, including medal index cards.

Military records, including unit war diaries.

Royal and Merchant Navy records, including Royal Marine service records.

Wills from the jurisdiction of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury.

Migration records, including aliens' registration cards and naturalisation case papers.

20th century Cabinet Papers and Security Service files.

Domesday Book.

A full list of digitised collections can be seen [here](#), although please note that it includes collections available on other sites that may charge for access, and are not included in this offer.

Does this apply to all digital records that are searchable in Discovery?

No, as not all digital records searchable in Discovery are available on our website.

The free access will apply to the digitised collections on our website, but it will not extend to our collections on other sites run by our commercial partners, such as Ancestry, Findmypast and The Genealogist. These sites are usually free to search with a subscription charge to view and download records, although most offer a 14-day free trial, and some are currently offering selected free access to their collections.

Website [Free access to digital records - The National Archives](#)

Quick Quiz

ROMAN MISCELLANY

'Britain, reconciled to the Roman system,' writes Sir Winston Churchill, 'enjoyed in many respects the happiest, most comfortable and most enlightened its inhabitants had known. Which of course leads us to what did the Romans do for us.....Once you have answered that, here are 10 more for you to grapple with.

1. Roman roads have been described as walls on the flat. Why?
2. How were Pompeii and Herculaneum (both over-whelmed in the eruption of Vesuvius A.D. 79) destroyed in different ways?
3. What was the most Important architectural feature bequeathed by the Romans to Posterity?
4. "When were 'Mulberry Harbours' first used?
5. What was a Roman Mile?
6. Why were Turkish Baths so called, and what were they?
7. What was the Roman Briton's equivalent of our 'A.A' Handbook?
8. What are the commonest Roman coins found in England?
9. Where were Christians thrown to the lions?
10. Did the Romans pay water-rates?

Bosworth Battlefield Heraldic Shields (story continues)



38 Sir William Brandon Jnr of Soham Cambridgeshire.

Sir William Brandon (1456 – 22 August 1485) of Soham, Cambridgeshire was Henry Tudor's standard-bearer at the Battle of Bosworth, where he was allegedly killed by King Richard III, according to S.B. Chrimes in a book published in 1999. Here is the actual page:

TO THE BATTLE OF BOSWORTH

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delay in achieving his purpose would provide at any rate Sir William Stanley with a decisive opportunity for doing precisely that.

Richard III and his men were received by the small band surrounding Henry with great courage and met with stout resistance. Henry's standard was overthrown, and the standard bearer, William Brandon, and others were killed by Richard III, who also achieved the feat of overthrowing John Cheyney, a warrior of more than average size and stature. Henry, we are told – and the words are very revealing – bore the brunt longer than his own soldiers would have thought possible and who had begun to abandon hope. Long enough, indeed, to enable Sir William Stanley to decide that the crucial moment had come, to gallop with his men across from where they were, to intervene before it was too late, to cut down Richard III fighting manfully to the very end, and so to rescue Henry from the brink of utter disaster. In the meantime – whatever these words may mean exactly – the earl of Oxford put Norfolk's vanguard to flight; Norfolk himself had lost his life, and many were killed in the ensuing chase, and many fled the field. Whether as many as a thousand of Richard III's forces and as few as a hundred of Henry's were killed in the battle, as Vergil tells us, must remain problematical, but we would expect the former figure to be exaggerated and the latter underestimated.

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William was the son of Sir William Brandon of Wangford, Suffolk, and of Soham, Cambridgeshire, Knight Marshal of Marshalsea (1425 – 4 March 1491) and wife (married 1462) Elizabeth Wingfield (died 28 April 1496/1497) He had numerous siblings, including Sir Thomas Brandon, who fought with him at the Battle of Bosworth and later became a leading courtier and Master of the Horse of Henry VII.

In 1478 Sir John Paston wrote that Brandon had been arrested for an attempted rape: "yonge William Brandon is in warde and arestyed ffor thatt he scholde have fforce ravysshyd and swyvyd an olde jentylwoman ..." By that time, he was already married to Elizabeth Bruyn, a widow with two sons, and according to Paston there were rumours he would be hanged for his offence. Brandon apparently escaped prosecution however, because a few years later he was one of the key London connections behind the Buckingham Revolt of 1483, along with his brother Thomas and brother-in-law, Wingfield. Pardoned in March 1484, he boarded a ship at Mersea in November and sailed for France, where he was supposedly joined by his wife, who gave birth to their eldest son in Paris. He joined his brother Thomas in the relief of the Hammes fortress. More details of Brandon's death emerge from the ballad of Bosworth, see below. At the Battle of Bosworth, William formed part of Henry Tudor's personal entourage, performing the role of royal standard bearer. When Richard III launched his final charge, he personally unhorsed Sir John Cheney, a well-known jousting champion. Brandon was the other notable victim of the charge, killed by Richard while defending the standard. As such he appears in stanzas 155 and 156 in *The Ballad of Bosworth*:

*amongst all other Knights, remember
which were hardy, & therto wight;
Sir William Brandon was one of those,
King Heneryes Standard he kept on height,*

*& vanted itt with manhood & might
vntill with dints hee was drivuen downe,
& dyed like an ancycnt Knight,
with HENERY of England that ware the crowne.*

—Bosworth Ffeilde, anonymous author

According to popular myth William and his brother were both knighted by Henry Tudor when he landed at Milford in 1485, however Thomas was only knighted after the Battle of Blackheath in 1497 and William was presumably only called "Sir William" out of courtesy after his death, or out of confusion with his father, the elder Sir William.

Sometime before 4 November 1474/1475 Brandon married Elizabeth Bruyn, daughter and co-heiress of Sir Henry Bruyn of South Ockendon, Essex, and wife Elizabeth Darcy, himself the son of Sir Maurice Bruyn. She was the widow of Thomas Tyrrell of Heron, Essex, whom she had married before 17 February 1461/1462, and who died after 3 July 1471, c. 13 October 1473, of the City of London, of Beckenham, Kent and of South Ockendon, Essex. She was a granddaughter of Sir Maurice Bruyn (d. 1466), and daughter and co-heiress of Sir Henry Bruyn (d. 1461) by Elizabeth Darcy (died c. 1471), daughter of Sir Robert Darcy of Maldon, Essex. Elizabeth Bruyn's paternal aunt, Joan Bruyn, married John Digges, great-grandfather of the scientist, Leonard Digges. On her father's side Elizabeth Bruyn was descended from Sir William le Brune, Knight Chamberlain to King Edward I. After William Brandon's death at the Battle of Bosworth on 22 August 1485, she married William Mallory or Mallery, Esq., whom she survived. She died 7 or 26 March 1493/1494.

By Elizabeth Bruyn, William Brandon had two sons and a daughter (the actual order of birth is not known), William Brandon (d. before 1500), Charles Brandon, 1st Duke of Suffolk (ca. 1484 - 24 August 1545), Anne Brandon married firstly Sir John Shilston, and secondly Sir Gawain Carew. Brandon also had two illegitimate daughters, Katherine, who married Roger Wolrich and Elizabeth.



39 Sir John Wells of Maxey, Northamptonshire

John (de) Welles, 1st Viscount Welles, KG (c. 1450 – 9 February 1498) was an English Lancastrian nobleman who was made a Knight of the Garter. John was born about 1450 to Lionel de Welles, 6th Baron Welles and Margaret Beauchamp. He was a maternal half-brother of Margaret Beaufort, and thus an uncle of the half-blood of Henry VII

John's father, Lionel de Welles, 6th Baron Welles, was slain at the Battle of Towton in 1461, and his elder half-brother, Richard Welles, 7th Baron Welles, inherited the Welles barony. Richard Welles and his son and heir, Robert Welles, 8th Baron Willoughby de Eresby, were both beheaded in March 1470 for involvement in an uprising against Edward IV in Lincolnshire. After the death of Robert Welles, the Welles barony was inherited, in her own right, by his only sister, Joan Welles. However shortly after Joan Welles' death in about 1474/5, both her father, Richard Welles, and her brother, Robert Welles, were attainted by Act of Parliament, five years after their executions. As a result of the attainders, John Welles was not able to enjoy the title to the Welles barony until the attainders were reversed by Parliament under Henry VII

A pardon in 1478 did not prevent Welles from participating in Buckingham's rebellion. He escaped to his nephew, the future Henry VII, in Brittany after its collapse. Henry knighted him on 7 August 1485, and he was created Viscount sometime between 15 July and 25 November 1486 and given substantial grants.

Sometime in December 1487 John married Princess Cecily of York, the daughter of Edward IV and Elizabeth Woodville, making him a member of the Royal Family. Princess Cecily of York was born on 20 March 1469 in Westminster, England and died on 24 August 1507 either on the Isle of Wight or at Hatfield. The apparent aim of Henry VII was to reward his uncle for loyalty and keep Cecily from marrying a more ambitious man. John and Cecily had two children, Elizabeth Welles (c. 1489–1498) and Anne Welles (c. 1491 – c. 1499).

He died 9 February 1498 in Westminster, London. Anne died soon after.



40 Sir John Wogan of Wiston, Pembrokeshire 1455 – 1536

Sir John is something of a mystery. I have turned up a lot of information about his father and grandfather and his children but frustratingly little about him. I discovered that he was possibly born in Herefordshire the son of Sir John Wogan Hir and Mawd Clement. He married Ann Vaughn and had several legitimate children. Harry Wogan, Mawd Wogan, Sir John Wogan MP, Thomas Wogan, Robert Wogan and one other child. He had connections to others mentioned in the Battle from Wales. If anyone has information please share. I have discovered that his brother in law was Sir William Perrett, was also knighted at the same time as Sir John Wogan of Whiston. In fact, three people were knighted at that ceremony (which followed the marriage of the king's son Prince Arthur to Catherine of Aragon in 1501) the third being James Ab Owen (who we may come across later). Sir John Wogan was enfeoffed by Sir William Perrett. Enfeoffment was a deed under the feudal system which transferred land and power for the return of a pledge of service. It would appear that Sir John not only survived the battle but thrived afterwards being part of a very powerful and rich family dynasty. From another source I discovered that Sir John Wogan, was a gentleman usher of the king's chamber and was granted certain offices in Pembrokeshire and Cardiganshire in consideration of his services in England and abroad. He was sheriff of Cardiganshire in 1542 and 1556, and of Pembrokeshire in 1543 and 1554. He married Anne, the heiress of William ap Phillip of Stone Hall, Pembrokeshire. He died 23 August 1557. I must just add that I have accredited this information to our Sir John as the dates work as do the family events particularly in a reference to a marriage to Anne (although one report does spell Ann with an e). I have been unable to completely cross check this entry and so it should not be fully relied upon.



41 Sir Robert Harcourt of Stanton Harcourt

I anticipate that as there is a local connection, here and that I may receive some correspondence to add or to correct what I am about to say. The information is very unclear and mixed up as there are many Robert Harcourts, over many generations. I will be grateful if anyone can correct any errors here. I have spent several hours researching on-line and in books and cannot accurately rule out all of the possible errors. The Harcourts connection with Market Bosworth and Wellesborough is well known and documented elsewhere and I do not intend to add to it here. Sir Robert Harcourt was a standard bearer to Henry Tudor at the Battle of Bosworth (it must have been a bit crowded in that department) and it appears he fared better than Sir William Brandon (above who was allegedly slain by King Richard III personally). The standard he held aloft at the Battle of Bosworth is kept and hangs above his tomb in the church of Stanton Harcourt. Or does it? The fragment of cloth on display bears the colours are of the Harcourt



Family and not Henry Tudor and so it is likely that the relic is of the Harcourt Standard and not that of Henry Tudor. Born in Stanton Harcourt, Oxfordshire in circa 1443 he was brother to Letitia (or Lettice de Neville) Elizabeth Gainsford, Ellen Buckingham and Catherine Stoner. He married Agnes Limericke (lymbrake). Many claim that Sir Robert was born in 1472, which would make him just 13 when the Battle of Bosworth took place. It is possible he was there at that age but unlikely as a standard bearer when one considers the importance of that role. He may of course have been aged anywhere between 12 and 16 and could have been the family standard bearer. In the relative safety away from the main battle as a rallying point for the Harcourt troops if needed. If the fragment is that of the Harcourts it contrasts with the legend that when Sir William fell, and the standard was not visible to Henry's troops, it was scooped up and hoisted aloft by Sir Robert. The missing standard could have signalled that all was lost until Sir Robert allegedly seized the standard and held it aloft once more, motivating forces loyal to Henry to carry on fighting. I have found a record which puts his birth in 1443 which is much more likely as he would have then been 42

at the Battle of Bosworth, although some claim this to be his father's year of birth. Most records I have seen record his death as being in 1509 which would make him 66 and not 38 as is claimed elsewhere, although one claims he died 5 years after the battle. Several more records claim he was killed in 1485 but that is not true, I believe they are assuming that as a standard bearer he died in 1485 at the battle when in fact it was Sir William

Brandon who perished. It is claimed that Sir Robert died without legitimate issue. This is not strictly true; I believe he died without an heir as he had two daughters Ellen and Elizabeth. His sisters and their husbands together with Dame Agnes sued William Grevile, Sarjeant-at-law in chancery regarding the manors of Stanton Harcourt, Ellenhall, Sharesdown, Sharehill, Brimsford, Coven and Bosworth, and lands in Sutton, South Leigh, and elsewhere, late of Robert Harcourt Knt. It is quite a muddle, but I am sure someone will be able to unravel the mystery. It will be an interesting project for anyone who would like to know more about Sir Robert. Do please share your finding with us here.



42 Sir William Berkeley of Beverston, Gloucestershire.

William de Berkeley 1st Marquess of Berkeley was born in February 1426, at Berkeley Castle, Gloucestershire, and died in February 1492. He was awarded the epithet of “The Waste All” by the Berkeley biographer John Smyth of Nibley. Upon his death Sir William was buried at St. Augustine’s Abbey, founded by the family, in Bristol and not as stated by some in a similarly named Friary in London. Sir Williams parents were James Berkeley, 1st Baron of Berkeley and Lady Isobel nee Mowbray. He married his first wife, Elizabeth West in 1466 (Elizabeth was a daughter of Reginald West, 6th Baron De La Warr). They divorced in November 1467. In 1468 Sir William married Joan Strangeways. After her death, he married Anne Fiennes in circa 1486.

William was invested as a knight in 1438 at age 12 and assumed the title of Baron Berkeley by writ on the 22nd of October 1463 following his father’s death. He was invested as a knight bachelor on the 18th of April 1475, becoming Viscount of Catherlough (the area now known as County Carlow, Ireland) between 1481 and 1485. He was also Viscount of Berkeley on the 21st of April 1481 and on the 5th of March 1483 became a Privy Councillor. Sir William also held the title of Earl Marshall and Great Marshall of England on the 19th of February 1486. At his death he was Marquess of Berkeley a title he held from the 28th of January 1489.

Like all good families there were disagreements. When Sir William died he had no surviving heirs and so the Marquessate and his other non-inherited titles became extinct at his death. He did, however, have a younger brother, Maurice Berkeley, 3rd Baron Berkeley. The brothers fell out when Maurice married Isabel Mead, daughter of Philip Mead, an alderman and mayor of Bristol. Sir William held the view that Maurice had married beneath his status. Instead of leaving his castle, lands and titles to his brother he settled them instead on King Henry VII and his heirs male. Upon the death of King Edward VI, the Berkeley inheritance returned to the family. This of course meant that on the death of the 1st Marquis, only the *de jure* barony title was passed on to his younger brother Maurice, that is to say he was Baron Berkeley *by right*, if not actually in possession of the baronial property. The 4th, 5th and 6th barons were also *de jure* only, with Henry (d. 1613) becoming *de facto* 7th Baron in 1553.

Sir William does seem to be a rather pugnacious character, not only disinheriting his brother he also had a dispute with Thomas Talbot, 2nd Viscount Lisle. In order to settle a dispute over his claims to his great uncle Thomas’s estate by combat. Rather a foolish decision it turns out as Thomas was killed. A battle, known as the Battle of Nibley Green, is notable for being the last battle fought in England entirely between the private armies of feudal magnates. William and Maurice were assisted at Nibley Green by a private army raised by Philip Mead, Maurice's father-in-law. It was surely a mark of ingratitude that William disinherited Mead's grandchildren. Not a particularly pleasant man, or so it would appear.



43 Sir John Savage Jnr of Clifton, Cheshire

Sir John Savage, KG (1444–1492), of Clifton, Cheshire,, was a noted English military commander of the late 15th-century, before being killed on active service in France. Savage was a supporter successively of Edward IV, then Henry VII, who bestowed the Order of the Garter upon him in 1488. Son and heir of Sir John Savage (1422–1495) and Lady Catherine née Stanley, daughter of Lord Stanley, he died three years before his father, so never succeeded to the family estates, including Clifton Hall, near Runcorn.

The Savages had been established in Cheshire since his great-great-grandfather Sir John Savage (1343–1386) married Margaret d'Anyers, heiress of Clifton and other lands around what became called Rocksavage. The Daniell Chapel in All Saints' Church, Daresbury, also celebrates the d'Anyers family.

The eldest of ten sons and five daughters, his younger brother, Dr Thomas Savage became Archbishop of York, whilst another three (Sir Edward, Sir Richard and Sir Christopher Savage) were all knighted. His sisters married into county families, including the Booths, Duttons and Leighs. Among his cousins was Thomas Stanley who was created Earl of Derby after Bosworth in 1485.

Savage fought with the Yorkists at the Battle of Tewkesbury and became close to Edward IV, whom he served as royal carver and knight of the body. He was appointed by King Edward IV as Constable of Hanley Castle, later he was a pallbearer at the king's funeral. Under Richard III, the Savage family were regarded with suspicion although they retained their liberty, Sir John being admitted as a Freeman of Chester in 1484, during the mayoralty of his father.

According to some sources,, Savage was one of the prominent men who encouraged Henry Tudor to invade. Sir John's brother, Dr Thomas Savage, may then have been studying abroad and acting as the English Savages' direct link to the future Henry VII. When Henry landed, Savage at once declared for him, and raised a considerable body of troops to fight at the Battle of Bosworth, wearing the Savage family's distinctive livery of white hoods, as described in the ballad Bosworth Feilde:

*Sir John Savage, that hardy Knight,
deaths dentes he delt that day
with many a white hood in fight,
that sad men were at assay.*

After that battle, where Savage commanded the left flank to victory, he received extensive grants of land confiscated from King Richard's supporters, including those of John, Lord Zouche, and Francis, Lord Lovell. Appointed a Knight of the Garter on 16 November 1488, Savage was killed during the Siege of Boulogne in October 1492.



44 Sir William Tyler of Snarestone, Leicester.

Sir William is another local lad and therefore had a 'home' advantage in the Battle. I was dismayed at first as I could find little about him. I was hoping to be able to add quite a story as I managed for John Hardwick from Lindley Manor. Sadly, there is not much available to me, but after two and a half hours of patient research I have managed to get a picture of the man. I will offer a word of warning though about some family tree sites available on-line. I have been rather surprised at some of the information they have shared not just about Sir William but others as well. In separate posts I have seen that Sir William lived to be 99 and died in Shropshire. That was another Sir William Tyler who did not take part in the battle. I have seen varying birthdays and family information; one expert claimed his birth year was 1475 he must have been a most precocious child. One soon after the battle. Further research may dispute this as these men may have been knights before the battle, I shall get to them in time. This is why I think we know little of Sir William before the battle. I am surmising that he had a good living but not that of a noble, he probably had a good house but not a manor or hall which may explain why most of the information is post battle when he became interesting. Less than a year after the battle, we hear of a rebellion against King Henry VII led by Lovell and Staffords (the latter being two brothers and is an interesting story and as it involves Sir William I have included it here, you are welcome). Who were they? The Stafford Brothers, Humphrey and Thomas, were members of the nobility who supported the Yorkists and were with Richard III at the Battle of Bosworth. Francis Lovell was a very wealthy Englishman who was a boyhood friend of Richard III and a distant relative of both Yorkist and Lancastrian families but who had also supported the Yorkists. He grew up with Richard in the same house being roughly the same age. As Richard became older, he knighted his friend, Lovell. When Richard became King in 1483, he promoted Lovell to be Lord Chamberlain of England. Lovell fought for Richard at the Battle of Bosworth but fled the field when the King was killed and sought sanctuary with the Stafford listed several siblings and another several children. I have no idea where evidence of the siblings came from and he died without issue according to his will (at least I think it is his will). You must understand that I have only limited access to research at the moment but have done my best to painstakingly put together an understanding of the man. That does not mean that I do not invite criticism. On the contrary anything you might be able to add or dispute will be most welcome so do not

hold back. Just be prepared to confirm your source (or if from a book, your source's source). Documentary evidence is missing from many stories and events we take for granted as happened as we know it. That is not always the case. I now believe that William Tyler was born in or around 1455 which would make him about 30 at the time of the battle. I believe this as William was a staunch and loyal supporter to Henry before the battle and also whilst Henry was in exile. As far as I can tell William responded to a request for help shortly before the battle, which is why he was there. Some say that Henry knighted several knights before the battle, which as he was not a king and actually an exiled trespasser he could not do that. The knighthood would have no value until Henry became king. I therefore believe that William was knighted along with, Sir Richard Guildford, Sir John Jastoy, Sir John Sisley, Sir John Trenzy, Sir Thomas Milbourn and Sir William Brandon immediately or brothers in an Abbey in Colchester, Essex. Being loyal Yorkists, they, Lovell and the Stafford brothers wanted to capture or kill Henry VII and therefore put Henry Lovell on the throne and re-establish the power of the Yorkists. After the Battle of Bosworth, Henry VII used spies to pursue and monitor escaping Yorkist supporters, Lovell and the Staffords included. In April 1486, Henry went on to tour the north of England and judging that the time was right Lovell and the Staffords left the sanctuary of the Abbey and went to get support to overthrow Henry but were pursued by Henry's spies. Lovell went to Yorkshire to Middleham Castle and a few Yorkist retainers came out to support him, as soon as Henry heard of the rebellion whilst in Lincoln he moved north to York to suppress it with his large armed force. His Uncle, Jasper Tudor, Duke of Bedford, was sent into Yorkshire promising to pardon everyone except Lovell and since he was not a Yorkist claimant to the throne the rebel force quickly disbanded. Henry also sent in two reliable nobleman, Sir Richard Edgecombe, the controller of the household and Sir William Tyler, keeper of the Jewels to arrest him. Knowing that his rebellion had failed Lovell fled to Margaret of Burgundy in Flanders, Richard III's sister. The Stafford brothers did little better; they went to Worcester in the midlands to get support, but few people joined them. When news of Lovell's escape and Henry VII's approach was received by the rebels, they fled to Culham Abbey and asked for sanctuary again but were followed by Henry's spies. This time Henry was less forgiving and had them dragged out and put on trial which violated the principles of sanctuary. From this I learned three things. Firstly, that Sir William was highly trusted as he was given the job of keeper of the jewels (I have been able to confirm this by checking the records and as long as it is the same man this is a fact). Secondly he was trusted not to rebel against king Henry VII as he would not have sent him to arrest the perpetrators if he feared he may join them. Finally, I learned that Sir William and Sir Richard were not much good at apprehending rebels as they escaped him. As an aside, the observant amongst you will have noticed that Henry did not recognise the claim of sanctuary and had them removed from an Abbey. Later the Pope was contacted about this and he sided with Henry VII saying that no man could claim the sanctuary of God when he was plotting to kill the king. I have also learned that lands stripped from Sir Gilbert Debenham a supporter of King Richard III and implicated in the Perkin Warbeck conspiracy were later returned to his sister Elizabeth Brews, upon payment of £500 all but for the lands given to Sir William. I believe that Sir William died in 1527 or thereabouts making him some 73 years of age. I am inclined to believe that he married and may have had a daughter. I think that a lack of a male line is another reason why I cannot learn much about Sir William as he created no dynasty which would have required a large house and lands and of course the associate disagreements and rows which would have made it into folk law if not the history books. It would appear that when talk is of issue, the concept is sometimes confused with the concept of heirs. I have read elsewhere that a knight with four daughters was described as dying without issue whereupon he actually died without heirs. I am sure that someone will be able to point out that the discrepancy is in relation to the type of knighthood bestowed on the recently deceased. I have attached the will of Sir William Tyler (thanks to the National Archive) later on at the end of the Newsletter. Once you have read it you may disagree about his daughter. Do let me know.



45 John Williams of Burghfield, Berkshire.

John Williams as born in circa 1449 in Llanishen, Glamorgan Wales. He was the son of William Ap Leuan and Joan (Tudor) ap Yevan, he had a brother Morgan. Sir John died on the 15th of June 1508 in Burghfield, Berkshire. Sir John moved to England with his brother Morgan after taking part in the Battle of Bosworth, where they supported Henry VII subsequently they anglicised their name from William to Williams. Sir John married Isabel (Elizabeth) Moore daughter and co-

heiress of Richard Moore of Burghfield in 1496. They had 5 children, Reginald, John, Anne, Joan (who became prioress of Studley Priory in 1529) and Jane. The Williams family can be traced back twelve generations to a Lord of Glamorganshire in the twelfth century. There is also an unproven claim that the family are related to Jasper Tudor. Son, John who was born in 1500 went on to become the Keeper of the Jewels in 1546, 56 years after Sir William Tyler, and was the first Baron Williams of Thame. John the elder appears to have had little interest except he fought for Henry at the Battle of Bosworth. He originated in Glamorgan and was a direct descendant of Iestyn of Gwent who was last to rule that principality. John was also related to Thomas Cromwell (alias Thomas Williams). I can learn little more about John Williams, Later Sir John (who may have received his knighthood and some land following the battle). I had to revert to his Welsh name to establish what I have found. It appears that once again Ancestry, Genealogy and Wikitree are full of mistakes and inaccuracies. I won't detail them all, but he has been described as being born in Burghfield which is not so, and he has been mixed up with his son, also Sir John referred to above. I would advise that anyone using these sources for research proceed with caution. I had to check and double check the information they offered and found most of it inaccurate. In one document I viewed they had mixed up Sir John and his son and shared the information side by side claiming our Sir John to be over 100 years of age when he died.



46 Jasper Tudor Earl of Pembroke, Pembrokeshire

I find it interesting that the Earl of Pembroke has an English name, Jasper is English and means Treasurer (if you thought wasp you should be ashamed of yourself). This was a very full and colourful life and I have attempted to boil it down to the key factors which influenced his life and his actions. Jasper Tudor (sometimes known as Jasper of Hatfield) was born in November 1431 at the Bishop of Ely's Manor in Hatfield, Hertfordshire, and died in December 1495. He was the uncle of the man to become King Henry VII and a leading architect in the successful accession to the throne in 1485. He was of noble Tudor stock emanating from Penmynydd in North Wales. The second son of Sir Owen Tudor, elder brother Edmund younger brother Owen – who was raised by monks and lived under the alias of Edward Bridgewater (their mother was the former Queen Catherine of Valois, widow of Henry V). There is also a record of a sister who later became a nun but nothing more is known or heard of her and I suspect she may have been placed out of sight for some reason. Through his father, Jasper was a direct descendant of Ednyfed Fychan, who was Llewelyn The Great's famous Chancellor which added greatly to young Jasper's status in Wales. He of course, via his mother was also a descendant of Charles VI of France. Catherine died in 1437 probably but not necessarily following childbirth and the six year old Jasper was placed into care with his sister and Edmund of Katherine De La Pole, sister of the Duke of Suffolk a nun at Barking Abbey. Owen, Jaspers father, was arrested immediately after his wife's death and was sent to Newgate prison. In 1442 their half-brother King Henry V took them into court where they were educated intellectually and morally by a priest. They also received military training and as they grew up were given military positions. On the 23rd of November 1452 Jasper was created Earl of Pembroke, and swore loyalty to Henry. Soon afterwards, his father, Owen was released from prison. Owens marriage to Catherine had been conducted in secret and so was not recognised by the authorities. This cast doubt on the legitimacy of Jasper and his siblings. Jasper continued to make progress and also became a Knight of the garter. During his time at court Jasper tried to work with the Duke of York and other nobles in an attempt to quell the infighting between the two houses. After the death of his older brother, Edmund, Jasper took over responsibility for maintaining the Lancastrian ties within Wales.

Upon the succession of the Yorkist King Edward IV in 1461 he was subject to an attainder for supporting his half-brother, the deposed King Henry. In 1471 Jasper fled to the continent but made regular trips back to England in an attempt to persuade support for his nephew Henry. After one of these he was nearly apprehended and fled from Tenby to Brittany. King Edward IV placed diplomatic pressure on the Duke of Brittany to return Jasper and his nephew to England where they would be executed. They remained safe and for 11 years resisted attempts to capture them and return them to England. In October 1483, the Tudors launched an invasion from Brittany, but the attempt failed. Jasper was instrumental in helping his sister-in-law Lady Margaret Beaufort place her son Henry VII on the throne. After the battle in 1485 Jasper financed the rebuilding of the North West tower of Llandaff Cathedral which now holds the cathedrals bells.



In 1484 the Duke of Brittany fell ill and whilst incapacitated Pierre Landais took over the reins. He used Jasper as a pawn to negotiate 3000 English archers to fight for Brittany against France. Charles VIII of France welcomed the fleeing Jasper and Henry to his palace where they were again safe. In August 1485, another attempt was made to invade which as we know resulted in the death of King Richard III and the accession of Henry VII to the Throne. Jasper was restored and given another title, that of Duke of Bedford.

Jasper was married to Catherine Woodville in 1485, they had no children. Although not recognised by Jasper whilst alive or in death through his will there were a number of illegitimate children. Jasper died at Thornbury Castle on the 21st of December 1495 aged 64. The image (above left) is that of a stained glass window, at Cardiff Castle by Wolfgang Sauber.



47 Sir Walter Hungerford of Farleigh (died 1516)

Sir Walter fought for Henry VII at the Battle of Bosworth. He served on the Privy Council for both Henry VII and Henry VIII. Walter Hungerford was the youngest son of Robert Hungerford, 3rd Baron Hungerford and his lady wife Eleanor de Moleyns (1426-1476), daughter and heiress of William de Moleyns. He was M.P. for Wiltshire in 1477-78, and, as a partisan in earlier days of the House of Lancaster, obtained a general pardon from Richard III on his accession in 1483. He was, nevertheless, arrested by Richard on the landing of the Earl of Richmond in 1485, but escaped from custody, and joined Richmond's army. At the Battle of Bosworth he killed, in hand-to-hand combat, Sir Robert Brackenbury, lieutenant of the Tower of London, under whose command he had previously served, and was knighted by Henry VII on the battlefield. In gratitude for his loyalty and support the new king Henry VII restored Farleigh Castle and some other of the forfeited family estates, though not the family honours, but he was made a member of the Privy Council. In February 1487 he was sent on a diplomatic mission to Rome, and executed a will before his departure. In 1497 he assisted in quelling Perkin Warbeck's rising. In 1503 he went in the retinue of Henry VII's queen to attend the marriage of the Princess Margaret with the king of Scotland. After the accession of Henry VIII he continued to serve as a member of the privy council.

He later married Jane Bulstrode, daughter of Sir William Bulstrode, and their children included, Edward Hungerford, his only son, the father of Walter Hungerford, 1st Baron Hungerford of Heytesbury (1503–1540). Elizabeth (or Isabel) Hungerford, who became the 1st wife of John Bouchier, 2nd Earl of Bath (1499-1560/61). Sir Walter Hungerford died in 1516 and was buried at Farleigh.



48 William Willoughby of Broke, Wiltshire

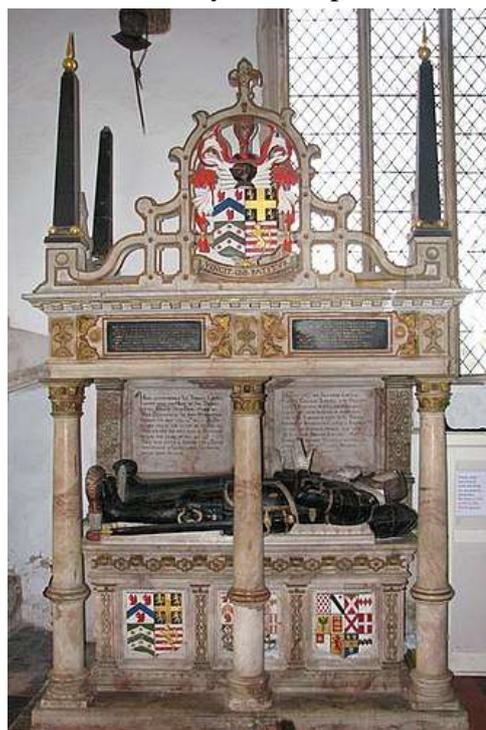
William was the second son of Sir John Willoughby of Broke and his wife Anne (Agnes) Cheney. Sir William fought for Henry at the Battle of Bosworth. He was brother to Robert, Lord Willoughby de Broke. Sir William was of Toners-Puddle (locally known as Piddle) near to Bere Regis in the county of Dorset. He was born circa 1455 and died in 1512 leaving a will. From his will we know that he ordered his body to be buried in the church of St. John the Baptist at Bere Regis. He endowed a Chantry at Edington in Wiltshire and also donated to the Abbey of Milton in Dorset, the latter receiving some 50 marks. A mark was a unit of currency used by many nations and was originally 100 pence but after 1066 it became 160 pence. Therefore, 50 marks would have been around £34.

This would be the equivalent of £21,540 today. In 1512 it would have purchased 23 horses, 85 cows, and represented almost 3 years wages of a skilled tradesman. Sir Williams son, Sir Nicholas also of Toners-Puddle held a manor and land, 400 acres of plough, two hundred of mead, three hundred of woodland and an amazing 2000 acres of furze and heath. The church in Bere Reges where Sir William, Sir Nicholas and his son Sir Leonard were buried was rebuilt in 1759 following a storm where the roof was blown off. Sadly, the aisle of the Willoughby's was not rebuilt and so the brass plaques, effigies, escutcheons and inscriptions are all gone. The manor and lands were sold off in 1653 and there appears to be little left to show that the Willoughby's lived there at all.



49 Thomas Lovell of Barton Bendish, Norfolk. Sir Thomas was the fifth son of Sir Thomas Lovell of Barton Bendish in Norfolk. His mother was Anne daughter of alderman of Norwich, Robert Toppe. His family supported the Lancastrian faction where politics were concerned. Sir Thomas was entered a Lincoln's Inn as a barrister. As a supporter of Henry Tudor, Earl of Richmond he was attainted (in English criminal law, attainder or attinctura was the metaphorical "stain" or "corruption of blood" which arose from being condemned for a serious capital crime, for example felony or treason. It entailed losing not only one's life,

property and hereditary titles, but typically also the right to pass them on to one's heirs. Both men and women condemned of capital crimes could be attainted) in the first Parliament of Richard III. He returned with Henry to fight at Bosworth and his attainment was reversed in the first parliament of the new king Henry VII. On the 12 October King Henry VII made Sir Thomas Chancellor of the Exchequer for life. A fortnight later he became Esquire of the body (personal attendant) to Henry VII. By August 1487 he had been promoted from Esquire of the Body to Knight of the Body, whereupon he also became the treasurer to the Kings' and Queen's chambers. A very trusted position. Sir Thomas was the MP for Northamptonshire in that first Parliament and



was also elected as speaker. He was head of the commons when they requested that Henry VII marry Elizabeth of York, instead he lent her £500. He was chosen to negotiate with the Scottish representatives. He continued in Parliament and was replaced as Speaker by Sir John Mordant in 1488. In 1487 Lambert Simnel the young pretender to the English throne threatened Henry VII but was crushed and ended up working at court as a scullion. Sir Thomas sided with Henry VII as did his brothers and fought at the battle of Stoke. In gratitude Sir Thomas was Knighted and on the 11th of March he became constable of Nottingham Castle. He participated in the king's policy of extortions and took part in the celebrations when Henry was invested as Duke of York. In 1503 he was promoted to Knight of the Garter. Among all of his other jobs he found time to be treasurer of the household, president of the council, high steward of the universities of Cambridge and Oxford and also an executioner for several nobles. Clearly an intelligent and industrious man well trusted by his king.

Sir Thomas continued to serve under Henry VIII most notably he travelled with the other Garter Knights and Henry VIII to meet Francis I of France, now called the Field of the Cloth of Gold. Falling ill in May 1523 he died on the 25th of May 1524 a very wealthy man.

The image (left) shows his tomb in the church of Ss Peter & Paul, East Harling.

I am enjoying the research although some is rather tedious and frustrating. If you think I have made a mistake, you could be right and so do not hesitate to contact me. For some of this work I have translated from Welsh to English using on-line translators but have noticed that not all translations are consistent and so it is possible I may be mistaken.

It is all good fun anyway and on the whole enjoyable.

One of the joys of this role as your Chairman has been some of the wonderful people I have had a chance to meet. One of these is Charles (Charlie) Frisby. Charlie is a remarkable man. He has been interested in local history for many years and has contributed an enormous amount to our knowledge and understanding of past

events. Charlie sent me a lovely hand drawn card at Christmas together with this reminiscence. It is quite sad, almost horrific in parts, but it clearly means a lot to Charlie and he kindly gave me permission to share it with you.

Contact Details

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Nigel Palmer

Chairman.

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Answers to Quick Quiz

1. They were from 3 to 5 ft- thick, with foundations of stones laid in, clay or cement, then a layer of rammed rubble, on top of that a nucleus gravel or sand and concrete, with a surface of stone slabs. From inscriptions and milestones their life is estimated at from 70 to 100 years.

2. An avalanche of lava buried Herculaneum; ash, stones and pumice destroyed Pompeii, the inhabitants of both were trapped in their homes or when trying to escape. Grim plaster casts have been made from the moulds they, and their pets, left in the larva. The interiors of shops and houses were found just as they had been left when abandoned.

3. They added a fourth order -composite, (a combination of Ionic and Corinthian) -to capitals of pillars; and were masters in the use of the semi-circular arch seen in the Colosseum, and internally with vaulting. They also invented concrete (caementum, three parts gravel and one part pozzolana – a volcanic rock found in Pozzuoli)

4. The Romans anticipated Churchill's 1917 idea, which bore such fruit in 1944, by filling with sand and concrete a 30000 ton ship (which: had transported, an Egyptian obelisk to Rome, still standing before St. Peter's) and sinking it to form foundations for the harbour of Ostia. On it was built a 200 feet high lighthouse.

5. A Roman foot measured 296 mm, (11 ½ inches) five Roman feet were a pace and 1000 paces a mile. The foot was subdivided into sixteen finger-breadths and the arm from elbow to fingertips, into twenty-four. You can measure yourself, your family and friends (in a socially distanced way to see what variances you might find) Roman mile stones were cylindrical and inscribed with the consul's or emperor's names, the oldest surviving is thought to date back to 250 B.C.

6. They were really Roman baths, called Turkish by the Crusaders. The famous centrally heated Caracalla's Baths in Rome, with their cold, tepid and hot plunges, sweat-room, dressing-rooms, private bathing-boxes, gymnasium, recreation room, lecture hall, exhibition gallery, library, shops and surrounding promenade covered thirty-two acres and could accommodate 25,000 bathers at a time.

7. The Antonine Itinerary (third century A.D.) which, unlike the A.A. Handbook, describes, somewhat unsystematically, only fifteen routes, nine of which radiate from London. These deviate, e.g., London to Lincoln via Colchester, or via St. Albans and Leicester, so possibly the Itinerary is of the imperial postal service in Britain, routed to include important towns.

8. Second-century coins, from Claudius to Trajan, are plentiful, and so, except in rural areas, are fourth century coins of Constantine (who issued the gold 'solidus', from which our word soldier-solidarius, mercenary-comes). Tax-evasion, as well as fears of enemy invasion, was responsible for most of these fourth-century hoards. In the fifth century official coinage disappeared.

9. In the Colosseum, infamous for the innocent blood of martyrs, gladiators and wild beasts spilt there, famous for its colossal architecture. Completed by Titus in A.D. 80, it remains a model of how to admit, seat and evacuate 45,000 spectators with the minimum of confusion and discomfort. Whether their 'thumbs up' meant life or death is still a debatable point.

10. Yes. Rome, in A.D. 300, used 270,000,000 gallons of water a day (about three times her consumption today) from two reservoirs in the hills; 17 per cent went to industry, 39 percent to private users and the remainder to barracks, public buildings, baths and fountains. The rate was calculated from the calibre of the bronze nozzle feeding each house.

Answers to the History Quiz

1. Anne of Cleves
2. Yasuaki is known as the first foreign-born samurai in 16th-century Japan.
3. Geoffrey of Monmouth
4. Harriet Tubman served in the America Civil War
5. It was the site of a failed attempt by a group of Cuban émigrés, with the backing of the US government, to invade the island in 1961.
6. Eleanor of Aquitaine
7. Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin, in April 1961
8. The body of Oliver Cromwell was exhumed in 1661.
9. Edward the Elder, son of Alfred and Ealhswith of Mercia
10. Edward Teach is better known to history as the notorious 17th-century pirate 'Blackbeard'.
11. The Ides of March
12. In Thomas Farriner's bakery on Pudding Lane (though technically the bakehouse was not located on Pudding Lane proper, but on Fish Yard, a small enclave off Pudding Lane) | Learn more with this guide to the Great Fire of London
13. The Waltz
14. King William IV (who was Victoria's uncle)
15. Bristol | Read more about the Bristol bus boycott.
16. Aaron Burr, the sitting vice president of the USA | Read more about the Hamilton-Burr duel
17. The drunkard's cloak was a form of humiliating punishment used in the past for people who were perceived to have abused alcohol.
18. Cuneiform, an ancient writing system that was first used in around 3400 BC.
19. Agrippina the Younger
20. Sarah Breedlove – who later became known as Madam CJ Walker

The Will of Sir John Welles. Sir John Welles will. 1499 June 22, The Will of John, Lord Welles in the name of our Lorde Jeshu, Amen. I, John, Viscounte lorde Wellis, uncle to the Kynge, our soveraigne lorde, and brodre to the right noble prynces, Margaret, countes of Richemond, naturall and dere modre to our said soveraigne lord, beyng of goode and hole memory, ye viij daie of February, the yere of our Lorde God 1498, and in the xiiij yere of the regne of our saide soverayne lorde, make this my testament. My bodie to be buried in suche place as [to] the kynge, the quene, my lady, his moder, and my lady, my wife, shalbe thought, most convenyent, and the costis and charge of the same burying, the obsequyes, masses, funeralles and all oder thynges therto convenyent and necessarie. And also, I remyt the making of my tumber to the ordre and discrecion of my saide soverayne lady the quene, my lady his modre, and my wife. And after these charges and costis aforesaid had and done, I will that all the dettis nowe by me dewe or to be dewe be treuly contented and paid. And I will that to the honour of Almighty God in the aulter afore which my bodie shall next lie my executors shall delyver a pair of candelstickes of silver, a masse booke covered with clothe of goolde, a chales of silver and gilte, a vestament of blewe velvet enbrodered with my armes, a pair of litle cruettes of silver and

parcellis gilte, and a coupe of silver p[arcell] gilt, which I will do remayne there to serve Almyghty God with for ever and in noo oder place. Also, I geve and bequethe to my dere beloved lady and wife Cecille, for terme of her lif, all my castelles, manors, landes and tenements, aswell suche as I have purchased as all odre duryng only her life, whome I trust above all oder, that if my goodes and catallis wilnot suffice for the performance of this my laste will, that she will thenne of the revenues of the profittes of my inheritance perform this my laste will. Also, I will that a preste be founde for ever after my said wifes decease to sey masse daily for my sowle and all Cristen sowles at the said aulter of the yerely revenues of my purchased landes, and over which my saide lady hath promysed to buye faithfully to purchase to the same entent if my saide purchased landes suffice not therto. And I will yt suche residue as shall fortune to be of my goodes that my saide dere beloved lady and wife have them to her owne use. And I make executors the saide Cecill, my dere beloved wife, and Sr Raynold Bray, knyght, and in my mooste humble wise beseech my said soverayne lorde the kyng and the quenes grace, my lady the kynges modre, to be supervisors.

As Promised the will of Sir William Tyler.

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[Faint Latin text, likely a prologue or introduction to the will, mentioning the testator's name and the date of the document.]

In Probatione testamento... *[Latin text detailing the legal proceedings for the probate of the will, including the names of witnesses and the court.]*

In Dei nomine amen *[Large decorative initial 'I' followed by Latin text, likely the beginning of the will's body.]*